# FISH COMMISSIONER TELLS ALL ABOUT FINNY DENIZERS OF THE DEEP AND FUR COATS

### Sealskin Garments Will Be for Bloated Bondholders Only Until Herds in Alaskan Waters Have Time to Recover from Slaughter of Poachers. Money in Frogs and Terrapin.

soar in price and after this season will almost disappear from British and amount to about \$75. Making, lining, &c., American markets, not to reappear until the winter of 1917. Congress, to increase the winter of 1917. The price to the ultimate wearer or her husband or her killing for a period of five years. Only the skins of such animals as are slaughther is another matter. Maybe it will be \$1,200. At some stores it will be \$1,500. the skins of such animals as are saugh-tered by the natives for food will be brought out of the country and sold. George Meade Bowers, Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, is the chief policeman standing guard over the herd. I had asked him to talk of fish, turtles and frogs. Whales, sealions and seals gave an adventurous turn to the story

#### Swims a Mile a Minute.

"I have just received some figures "Last year there were 29,400 breeding female seals country. A million pelts are obtained on at the rookeries on Pribliof Islands. the Eastern shore of Maryland every year. It requires 100 for a long coat. \$1,384. Japan, Canada, and the United I don't know of any regular muskrat States entered into a treaty agreement farms, but as the animals thrive wherwere 29,400 breeding female seals states entered into a treaty agreement to stop pelagic sealing in Alaskan waters. The treaty went into effect last year. As a result, there are twice as many female seals as there were in the

"If a seal is shot and instantly killed, the body sinks immediately and is usually lost. So the number of seals oblined by the poachers invariably fell far below the number actually destroyed. When the mother fails to return, the pup starves to death. Some seasons as many as 14,000 dead pups have been found at the rookeries, which showed, approximately, that an equal number of mothers were killed by the pelagic seal-rers. This year, however, only 1,060 pups died on the islands.

"The sales of Alaskan sealskins in the London market is suit."

"Up to this season it was our practice only to kill the surplus of male seals. The and sail vessels, twenty steam launches.

Money in Frogs and Terrapin.

By James B. Sorrow.

Persons who like to dabble in the water and figure out profits on paper might try their mathematics on mustrals' and diamond-backed turrapin. "Bealskin costs are now made out of the pelts of muskrais. Terrapin, six inches across the shell, are being sold for \$15 a dozen. Both animals are romantic in commercial possibilities. Indeed, it might be practicable to raise them in the same pond, with lilies as a side line and catfish as a paying incident of the enterprise.

Visionary as muskrats may sound as a business proposition—not to mention terrapin, and they can be argued equality as well—the suggestion is not without sensible appeal when the facts are known. A ship came down from Alaske the other day carrying a cargo of 2.76s scalkins. That one cargo contained all manufacturers of the world will handly during the scason of 1912-13.

Seal coats of full length have risen to such a price that none save millionaires ought to purchase them. Muskrat coats, which look like seal, are now being specialized by all fashionable furriers. Pelts of this once humble and be caught in traps balited with passings. In the meanwhile Alaskan seal will sour in price and after this season will almost disappear from British and American markets, not to reappear until the winter of 1817. Congress, to increase the fact of the coat, \$857. The price to the util- fact of the coat, \$857. The price to the util- fact or he read and the residual price or or he husband or he facts are what indulgent husbands will be up against dang about Christmas time this year. Eight skins at \$50 would cost \$450, and American markets, not to reappear until the winter of 1817. Congress, to increase the fact of he coat, \$857. The price to the util- mark the fact or he read the coats and account to about \$75. Making, lining, &c. we shall estimate at \$100. Total first coat of the coat, \$857. The price to the util-

#### Thought He Had a Bargain.

"A man tore into my office not long ago, saying that he could buy a dandy seal coat, reaching the bottom of his wife's dress, for \$300. He wanted my opinion before he wrote his check. "That is a pretty good specimen of muskrat," I said to the clerk. He replied that it was though it was known to the trade, he said as Hudson seal. Muskrat skin is all right and is largely used in this country. A million pelts are obtained on the Eastern shore of Maryland every year. It requires 100 for a long coat I don't know of any regular muskrat farms, but as the animals thrive wherever there are water and vegetation. I should think they would pay if one went into the business in the right way."

"What do you know about frog farms?" I asked.

"What do you know about frog farms?" I asked.

"A man tore into my office not long and 150 small sail, power, and rowboats are part of the equipment of the bureau of the equipment of the bureau three and restrict. The methods of catching have been so improved that shad would soon become improved that shad wou "A man tore into my office not lon

"The seals come in from the ocean during the summer. After the birth of her pup, the mother slips back into the water and awims off in search of food. She may go a long distance, being a long listance, being a long distance, being a long listance, being a long listance, being a long listance, and the raise of that a seal can travel at the rate of thirty miles an hour and is the fastest creature that lives in the water. From what I know of them, I should say that they can swing a mile a minute. Heretofore it has been the practice of Japanese and Canadian poachers to kill the along the edges of the ponds on streams. thirty miles an hour and is the fastest years ago. We have any now ang have creature that lives in the water. From what I know of them, I should say that they can swim a mile a minute. Hereto-fore it has been the practice of Japanese and Canadian poachers to kill the seals as they approached the breeding grounds and to cruise about for the mothers when they left the rookeries to hunt for fish.

"If a seal is shot and instantly killed, the body sinks immediately and is usuThe theory on which the Bureau of

The sales of Alackan sealskins in the logoratory of the country.

In any man owns a pond, he can have been it stocked with fish free of cost to himman the logoratory of telling how many animals have been it stocked with fish free of cost to himman the logoratory of telling how many animals have been it stocked with fish free of cost to himman the logoratory of the logoratory of telling how many animals have been it stocked with fish free of cost to himman the logoratory of th



GEORGE M. BOWERS.

farms, but as the animals thrive where ever there are water and vegetation. It should think they would pay if one went into the business in the right way."

"What do you know about frog farms." I asked.

"Nothing at all but there ought to be money in frogs and I am sure there would be in diamond-backed terrapin, which can be raised anywhere between Long Ishand and the Gulf of Mexico. I sent some to our hatchery and biological laboratory at Beaufort, N. C., several years ago. We have 800 now and have proved our case. They can be raised, that I know, but they should be given protection and their eggs ought to be watched. Terrapin deposit their eggs along the edges of the ponds on streams in which they live and crows and other Treasury at Washington. The salmen packers pay a license tax of about \$90,000. packers pay a license tax of about \$90,00

#### How to Best the Mest Treat.

"We planted 3.687 millions of eggs and fry during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912," Commissioner Bowers told me.
"The work, set forth in cold figures, is The work, set forth in cold figures, is rather imposing but it should be increased. I would have a marine hatchery every one hundred miles from New England to Texas for the propagation of all kinds of food-fish that live in the Atlantic Ocean. The American people need more meat-prices all over the country are proof, that the statement is true—and I would fill their rivers and lakes and the two oceans with commercial fishes, such as shad, whitefish As it is, we had \$,224 applications for fish during the past twelve months to be placed in rivers and lakes and in private ponds and preserves.

"Years ago there were free grazing leader to."

lands in the West for cattle and and beef and mutton were cheap. We do not realize that the oceans, the lakes, and the rivers are free feeding places for and the rivers are free feeding places for fish. The eggs and fry, which we can now produce for \$122 a 1,000,000, as against \$168 a 1,000,000 fifteen years ago, are placed in the water. The crop thus sown, if I may state it that way, requires no further attention. It grows without expense and in due time is harvested. We have not only reduced the cost of getting eggs and fry, but we are planting seven fish where we formerly planted one, but even so, we should plant a great many more, so that wherever there is water the people nearby shall have a sure and cheap supply of food."

Saving Fish in the Ocean. "But can't the ocean fish." I said. propagate themselves without the help

"Yes, if man didn't catch them and if enemies of their own kind were to let them alone. We planted \$5,000,000 had-dock, 237,000,000 cod; 290,000,000 pollock, and 985,000,000 flatfish last year in the Atlantic Ocean. Men who make a business of fishing for cod will say that if we have not saved the industry from destruction, we have at least kept it up to a profitable point. I am sure, too, that if the salmon in the Pacific are saved from exsalmon in the Pacific are saved from ex-tinction we should have the credit. The national government has taken measures to conserve this immensely valuable fish, planting 154,000,000 last year, and has in-fluenced the Pacific States to enact nec-essary protective legislation. Some of the streams in Alaska have been closed to fishermen and salmon go unhindered in such places to their spawning grounds. "The salmon is an interesting fish. It is born in fresh or tidal water and then

to air their grievances against man. complain that the lord of the earth was "a beast," that he lived merely to devour them, that he talked about a steak or a chop with all the savagery with which the giant in "Tom Thumb" beliewed about "smelling the blood of an English man." But—when all was said and done, the oyster had it on all of them, for the oyster had it on all of them, for the oyster had it on all of them, for the oyster had it on all of them, for the oyster had it on all of them for the oyster had it on all of the oyster had it

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From the New Yest Times.

Will and the properties of smeaks to New Brunswick and the formation of th

Transferring fish from their native to new waters, however, to part of our waters, however, to part of our waters however, to part of Hallowe'en of their own. When large eithers are now made all way from Los Angeles to Alaska. a distance of Ace mise. Four hundred and hirty new young striped hour free heart waters have young striped hour free heart waters have young striped hour free heart waters have young striped hour free heart have a controlled went to the court water waters and the common food up and down the Pacific coast. Rainbow grate of an advantage of the seast. Rainbow grated and accommon food up and down the Pacific coast. Rainbow grated and the seast of the seast and common food up and down the Pacific coast. Rainbow grated and the seast of the seast and common food up and down the Pacific coast. Rainbow grated and the seast of the seast and common food up and down the Pacific coast. The season has been down to the season of the season has been a season has been a season to the season has been a season to the season have been season to the season

kind. Black bass, by he way, will eat trout, and so we never plant both of them in the same stream. "What do you know about whales"

Several firms are making me

stantly look for a place to hide. A lobster, realizing that he is slow, will back up against a stone to prevent a rear attack, and then do a neat turn at boxing with his long, trap-like claws. Anglers for brook-trout and black bass will testify that each is up to snuff in strategy, and has lots of pluck. But here, I am no zoologist, and besides have talked enough."

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# **JAPANESE CELEBRATING** THEIR OWN HALLOWEEN

## People of Nippon Have Their Witches, Weird and Terrible Most of Them Symbolize

#### Felk Lore Story.

One of the most similar stories (to coldren in Japan; is that of a boy named Kihachi, who was employed as named Kihachi, who was employed as home and see his family, who would acolyte in a temple. Unfortunately, he be likely to think him drowned. So he was far from being a success in that the whale business, and whales, I think, are as numerous as ever in some parts of the world. I counted six of them off the coast of Alaska, and saw one of them and a sea hon fight a long and bloody battle. A sea lion will weigh a ton, and so the whale had his hands full, I was going to say. The sea lion was killed finally, but he fought with surprising intelligence.

"Things which swim are smarter than one thinks. Minnows know enough to keep away from deep water and their larger brethern who are greedy to swallow them alive. Put any kind of fish into a tank with a seal and he will instantly look for a place to hide. A with dust. Obeying mere habit, he dust-ed the altar and cleaned things up in a general way; and then, the work be-ing finished, he discovered that there was a screen with a big blank space, on

> re number of cats.
> Then he had filled the screen with cats he went to sleep on the floor. But in the middle of the night he was awakened by screams and yells incon-ceivably alarming. For a while he lay trembling, not daring to move, and after a while all was still, and again he

and extremely quarrelsome-its custom traveler it may happen to meet. But, notwithstanding its malignancy, it is re-narkably polite. This creature is known as the Kappa.

This creature is known as the Kappa. On encountering him, the prudent thing to do is to bow very low. He will then be compelled, out of politeness, to respond with an abesiance equally low, and in doing so he is lost. For his strength lies in a fluid which is contained in a cup-shaped depression on the top, of his head. When he bows, the liquid is spilled, and he becomes at once so weak that he can be dispatched without difficulty.

Speaking of gobiln cats, however, re-calls the story (told by Mary F. Nixon-Roulet, in her book of "Japanese Fairy Tales") of the young Samurai, Wakiki, who, wandering in pursuit of his fortune. who, wandering in pursuit of his fortune, came upon a ruined temple in a forest. He had lost his way, and, to escape an oncoming storm, sought shelter in the temple and went to sleep.

By and by he was aroused by blood-curdling yells, and, looking out, beheld a troop of monstrous cats dancing on the cleared space in front of the temple. As they capered about they sang in chorus

"Whisper it not to Shippertaro That the Phantom Cats are near, Lest be soon appear—lest be soon appear,"

Next morning Wakiki journeying on came to a hamlet in the midst of green fields. He met a sweet young girl, who took him to a near-by cottage, where a bowl of rice was placed before him. He bowl of rice was placed before him. He cussed in the family circle. There were perceived, however, that the family was in grief, and the damsel's eyes were red with weeping. Her father explained to him that the neighborhood was afflicted by a demon which each year demanded the fairest maiden in the village, on pain of destroying all its inhabitants, it was customary to put the maiden in the mation was chiefly proud of It was customary to put the maiden in a cage, carry her to the rulned temple in the forest at sunset, and leave her there. On the following day the cag-would be found empty, with no trace of "Who is Shippeitaro?" asked the young

The father replied that Shippeitaro was the name of a beautiful dog owned by a daimyo in the neighborhood.

#### Borrows the Dog.

Telling the man to "keep his daughter at home." Wakiki went to the daimyo's castle and begged the dog for one night, promising to return him in the morning. At evening he put the dog into the cage, which was carried to the temple by which was carried to the temple by bearers, who immediately ran away. The young soldier, however, hid in the tem-ple, and soon afterward he saw the cats approach, led by an enormous Tom, which sprang upon the cage and tore it open with one sweep of his paw. Out leaped Shippeitaro, seising the great cat. Wa-kiki rushed to the dog's aid with drawn sword, and soon the demon cats were all dead.

#### Other Storles.

delights.

Then he decided that it was time to go ing permission, was conveyed by the sea erything he found there was strange. however. His hut was gone; none of the people knew him; the village itself wore a different aspect. At length he came a different aspect. At length he came across a very aged fisherman who told him that persons of his name had lived there four centuries previously. Their tombstones, overgrown with mosses and lichens, were shown to him; and, as he gazed upon them, his teeth fell out and his limbs became stiff. All at once the weight of 460 years came open him and he died.

Decidedly of a Hallowe'en character is ed the altar and cleaned things up in a general way; and then, the work being finished, he discovered that there
was a screen with a big blank space, on
which, irresistibly tempted, he drew a
large number of cats. jiyama, of course. They were childless, and the woman besought the mountain for a baby. That night there appeared on the mountain side a strange light, which seemed to hover over and finally

are the most difficult of all animals to draw in a life-like manner.

An Eccentric Goblin.

There is in Japan. by the way, a rather eccentric kind of goblin which has the head of an ape, the body of a turtle, and the legs of a frog. It is amphibious and extremely quarrelsome—its custom

Then their mothers relate to them the legend and say: "Those are the tears of the little moon princess. fitting to seek her beloved."

And over all, calm and eternal, smiles the Honorable Mountain.

RENE BACHE.

### THE GOOD OLD DAYS

When Patriotism Was More Considered Than Prize Fights.

Jamer, in Leelie's

It was the day after the national holiday, on the 5th of July, in the early morning. I was going up in an elevator in a large office building in New York. in a large office building in New York. Two young men entered, well dressed, nice looking, and apparently well-to-do. One remarked to the other, after the customary morning greeting: "Well, what do you think of Jack Johnson?" There had been a prize fight, it appears, on the Fouth, in which the negro puglist had vanquished the competitor.

This negro prize fight was the thought uppermost in the minds of these young men. They were not interested in the Glorious Fourth, in the Presidential campaign, in the high cost of living, or in paign, in the high cost of living, or in any of the great problems that perplex and disturb mankind.

any of the great problems that perpead and disturb mankind.

Undoubtedly if I had asked them the question they would have said that belonged to the great army of discontented and dissatisfied, who have thrust themselves to the front in this country, and who are largely responsible for the unrest, unreason, and unbelief which are jeopardizing American prosperity and making us contemptible in the eyes of every other great commercial nation.

In the good old days, when I was a boy, negro prize fights were not discussed in the family circle. There were other things of great consequence to

sities of life cheap, and everyouty con-tented, the nation was chiefly proud of the fact that it was called "A God fear-ing nation." Happy days! Let us get rid of the muckrakers, demagogues, and self-seekers and legus reformers that have tormented us too long.

#### Old-time Demerts

From the Ohio State Journal. In the good old days, when life was simple and sincere, when people were happier than now and didn't make so much money, when society was friend-ship and home was love, there were two stated and popular desserts at all parties and particular dinner occasions, and they were float and tarts.

That float! There was never anything to compare with it before or since. Those white, snowy islands floating on a golden flood were a dream just imported from elysium. It was almost ported from elysium. It was almost profane to taste it, so like a vision of eternal happiness it seemed. But we did taste it, and the luxury of it skipped past the palate and melted into the mind, where it inspired thoughts of the localization of the

kiki rushed to the dog's aid with drawn sword, and soon the demon cats were all dead.

There was great rejoicing in the village thereupon. As for the maiden, of course ahe promptly dried her tears and married the young soldier.

In the castle of another dismyo there was a young Sumural who loved a lady fair—the daughter of a nobleman of lesser as illes of the yalley, and sone there was a young soldier. In the castle of another dismyo there was a young Sumural who loved a lady fair—the daughter of a nobleman of lesser as simple and modest as illes of the yalley, and sometimes we thought they were related the see father, is an artest admirer of the stand, so the is very possing in Washington, and throughout the lot the soldier. She scorned his addresses and sent back the letters he wrote her, so that finally his adoration turned to hate.

# Big Oyster Crop Expected to **Reduce High Cost of Living**

### "Living, Palpitating" Bivalves Cheaper Than Meat and "Ogre-like" Man Expected to Take Advantage of Solution of Mooted Ouestion.

Hard on the oyster at undoubtedly was, said the man; much harder than on the venerable cow, which may make its appearance on the table in the form of beef; on the porker, which might become mere pork; on the calf, converted into veal, or the sheep become mutton. To be sure, each and all of these citizens of the animal creation might, if assempled in due parliamentary form to air their grievances against man, comassempled in due parliamentary form to air their grievances against man, complain that the lord of the earth was "a beast," that he lived merely to devour them, that he talked about a steak or a chop with all the savagery with which the giant in "Tom Thumb" beliowed about "smelling the blood of an Englishman." But—when all was said and done, the oyster had it on all of them, for the oyster was and is eaten whole—swallow-

With the full consciousness that he swas speaking of a thing which lives and breathes and which even "palpitates" sometimes as the ogre-like teeth of man sink into it, an oyster dealer yesterday opined that it was "up to" the lowly opined that it was "up to" the lowly opster to solve the high-cost-of-living problem; or at least help much in the solution.

Hard on the oyster at undoubtedly was, said the man; much harder than on the venerable cow, which may make its appearance on the table in the form of the control of the cont

"They are fat, too—fine, julcy things."
(And he smacked his lips, maintaining

Oystem Are Plentiful.

"Oysters are going to be more plentiful this year than they have been for three or four years," said this man. "The reports from the beds in the Chesa-peake Bay say so.

# DAUGHTER OF SECRETARY SUPPORTS TAFT.

